Highways हैं, Airport है, ये सारे-के-सारे केंद्र सरकार बनाएगी और राज्य सरकार का काम बिजली, पानी, आदि का रहेगा, इन सारी चीजों को राज्य सरकार देखेगी।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Failure of PDS

*183. SHRI RAJ NATH SINGH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Public Distribution System (PDS) in the country is a total failure;

(b) whether Government are aware that BPL card holders are not getting proper supply of wheat, rice and sugar and the shopkeepers are selling all items in the open market, particularly in Gole Market area of New Delhi;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the measures being proposed/to be proposed by Government to check the malpractices; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (e), No Sir. TPDS is operated under the joint responsibility of the Government of India and State/UT Governments. The Government of India carries out procurement of foodgrains for the TPDS, their storage, transportation and allocation to the State/UT Governments. The responsibility for allocation of foodgrains within the State/UT, identification of eligible families and issuance of ration cards to them, and supervision of distribution of allocated foodgrains to eligible families through fair price shops, rests with State/UT Governments.

The State/UT Governments are mandated to ensure that the foodgrains allocated under the TPDS reach the targeted families and no leakages/diversions take place.

For BPL families (including AAY families) foodgrains (rice and wheat) are allocated to all States/UTs @ 35 kg. per family per month. Details of offtake of foodgrains (rice and wheat) under the TPDS by State/UT Governments during the last five years are given below.

(in lakh tonnes)

Offtake of foodgrains (rice and wheat) during the 10th Plan Period (All India)				
2002-2003	2003-2004	2004-2005	2005-2006	2006-2007
200.66	239.31	293.55	311.05	313.69

These details of foodgrains lifted by the State/UT Governments indicate an increasing trend and a larger coverage. They clearly establish that TPDS is not a failure.

There have been complaints about shortcomings in TPDS. So for independent feedback, the Targeted Public Distribution System was got evaluated by Programme Evaluation Organisation (PEO) of Planning Commission and ORG Marg, New Delhi.

Their reports received in year 2005 reported that there were diversions/leakages of foodgrains, inclusion and exclusion errors in identifying targeted beneficiaries and operations of Fair Price Shops (FPSs) were not financially viable.

Therefore, to strengthen the TPDS, including curbing of leakages and diversion, a nine-point action plan was formulated in 2006. This is being implemented by State/UT Governments. Its implementation is being monitored by the Central Government. Required action is being taken by the State Governments and UT Administrations against those found indulging in malpractices.

Additionally, a revised Citizens' Charter has been issued recently for adoption and implementation by State/UT Governments for facilitating use by citizens of provisions of Right to Information (RTI) Act, 2005 in relation to functioning of TPDS.

As reported by Government of Delhi, there are 3558 BPL Card holders in Gole Market Circle for whom 889.50 quintals of wheat, 355.80 quintals of rice and 213.48 quintals of Sugar are allocated every month. These allocated quantities are distributed to the BPL families through ten fair price shops and two mobile vans. In the Gole Market Circle since August, 2005, Enforcement Branch of Food, Supplies and Consumer Affairs Department, Government of Delhi has conducted periodic surveys of Fair Price Shops. Based on them, departmental action is being taken in case of one Fair Price Shop for supply of poor quality foodgrains.

Female foeticide

†*185. SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of cases of foeticide during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) whether Government are formulating any scheme to have a check on increasing cases of female foeticides;

(c) if so, the details of this proposed scheme;

(d) whether Government have any proposal to set up any type of centre to prevent foeticide in every district of the country; and

(e) if so, by when these centres are likely to be opened and operational?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) Number of cases of foeticide registered during 2003, 2004 and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.